

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0021] on page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--[0021] There are various ways of advantageously embodying and developing the teaching of the present invention. The reader is referred, for that purpose, ~~on the one hand to the claims subordinate to Claim 1, and on the other hand to the~~ explanation below of an exemplary embodiment of the invention with reference to the drawings. In conjunction with the explanation of a preferred exemplary embodiment of the invention with reference to the drawings, an explanation is also given of generally preferred embodiments and developments of the teaching. In the drawings:

Q FIG. 1 shows, in a schematic view, an exemplary embodiment of a heatable reagent station for an apparatus according to the present invention, in particular for use in an automatic stainer; and

FIG. 2 shows the subject matter of FIG. 1 with a container inserted.